

G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm  
Gorman  
Private

late 19th century

The Israel Thompson Farm consists of a mid to late nineteenth century plank house with late nineteenth century frame additions, a late nineteenth century frame bank barn, and a frame chicken house. Unrelated to the farm, but currently being used as an outbuilding, is a small early twentieth century dwelling that was moved here from Steyer-Gorman Road in the 1950's. The original block of the main house is a two story, gable-roofed, vertical plank structure on a foundation of coursed, roughly squared stone. The building is small, measuring only two bays long by one bay wide. 6/6 sash windows light this section. The current owners report that the interior has been entirely remodeled and repartitioned. A two story, gable-roofed, three bay by one bay frame addition is attached to the northeast elevation of the original block.

Locally, this site is referred to as the Israel Thompson Farm, as it is thought to be the home of this prominent Ryan's Glade settler. Thompson bought 1,403 acres of land at Ryan's Glade in 1849 which he farmed, and also had an up and down sawmill on Glade Run next to Chisholm's mill. Due to the extensive alterations on the dwelling to this farm, it is uncertain if the house actually fits into the 1849-79 time period when Thompson is known to have lived in the area.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Israel Thompson Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Paul S. Harvey Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

MD Route 560, W side, .7 mi. S of White Church - Steyer Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Gorman

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul S. Harvey

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>1950's</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |  |

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Israel Thompson Farm consists of a mid to late nineteenth century plank house with late nineteenth century frame additions, a late nineteenth century frame bank barn, and a frame chicken house. Unrelated to the farm, but currently being used as an outbuilding, is a small early twentieth century dwelling that was moved here from Steyer-Gorman Road in the 1950's.

The original block of the main house is a two story, gable-roofed, vertical plank structure on a foundation of coursed, roughly squared stone. The building is small, measuring only two bays long by one bay wide. 6/6 sash windows light this section. The current owners report that the interior has been entirely remodeled and repartitioned. A two story, gable-roofed, three bay by one bay frame addition is attached to the north-east elevation of the original block. Its southeast elevation serves as the facade, it having a symmetrical three bay, center door arrangement with 2/2 sash windows. Both wings are covered with weatherboard siding.

The barn is supported by a frame of circular sawn lumber with mortise and tenon joists and a new concrete block foundation. A few of the timbers are hewn, but there is no consistent use of them. This suggests that some of the materials may have been taken from another dismantled structure. Its roof is gabled and its exterior is sheathed with vertical board siding.

The chicken house is a one story, gable-roofed, frame building covered with weatherboard siding. A door and a grouping of four windows pierces the facade.

The second dwelling is a one story, gable-roofed frame building covered with German siding. Its basic configuration is a five bay by one bay rectangular plan with a recent shed-roofed addition extending across its rear elevation. The facade has a symmetrical five bay, center door arrangement with a four panel door and 2/2 sash windows. The central cross gable above the door is adorned with a vent bearing a pierced star motif. Beaded tongue and groove board lines the ceiling and the interior walls, however, all of its partitions have been removed.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

| PERIOD  |  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING      | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION            | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS               | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION               | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING             | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY     | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION               |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES      late 19th c.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Locally, this site is referred to as the Israel Thompson Farm, as it is thought to be the home of this prominent Ryan's Glade settler. Thompson bought 1,403 acres of land at Ryan's Glade in 1849 which he farmed, and also had an up and down sawmill on Glade Run next to Chisholm's mill (see G-V-B-053).<sup>1</sup> Due to the extensive alterations on the dwelling to this farm, it is uncertain if the house actually fits into the 1849-79 time period when Thompson is known to have lived in the area.

The early twentieth century dwelling that was moved to this site is said to have been a company-built house for a coal company operating along Steyer-Gorman Road. The house may have belonged to the Datesman Coal Company, the Steyer Run Coal Company, the Witman Smokeless Coal Company, or the Steyer Mining Company, as all four had operations on that location at various times during the early twentieth century.<sup>2</sup>

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- <sup>1</sup> Isaac W. Thompson. My Pioneer Grandmother, (undated, privately published) pp. 35 and 56.
- <sup>2</sup> Charles K. Swartz and William A. Baker, Jr. Second Report on the Coals of Maryland, Maryland Geological Survey. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1920), p. 246.
- CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

## LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Valerie Cesna, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

August 1981

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



Gorman, MD-WV  
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
 Scale - 1:24,000  
 1949; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-V-B-055  
 Israel Thompson Farm/Paul S. Harvey Farm  
 MD Route 560, W side, .7 mile  
 S of White Church-Steyer Rd.



G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

SE elevation





G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm •

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

SW elevation



G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

NW & NE elevations